

6: Operational Amplifiers

- Operational Amplifier
- Negative Feedback
- Analysing op-amp circuits
- Non-inverting amplifier
- Voltage Follower
- Inverting Amplifier
- Inverting Summing Amplifier
- Differential Amplifier
- Schmitt Trigger
- Choosing Resistor Values
- Summary

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Operational Amplifier

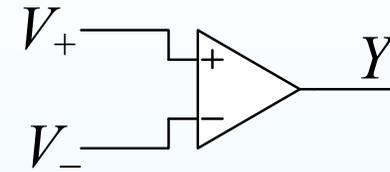
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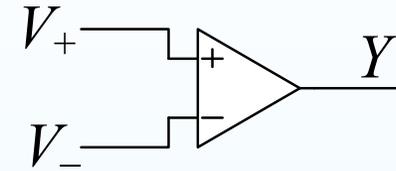
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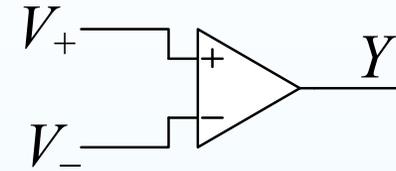
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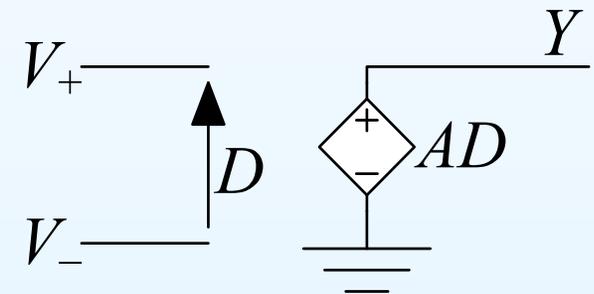
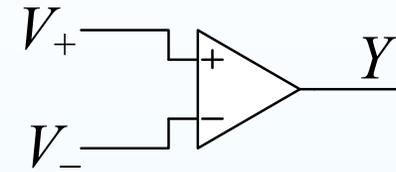
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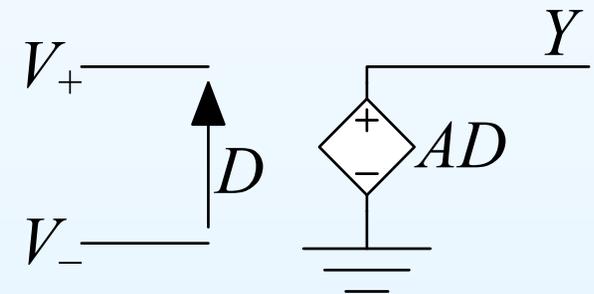
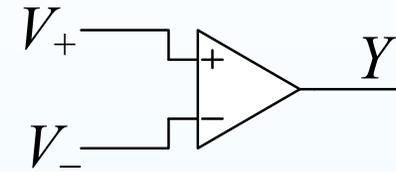
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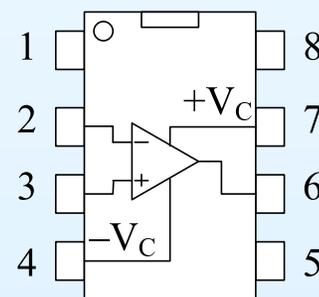
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Integrated circuit pins are numbered anti-clockwise from blob or notch (when looking from above).



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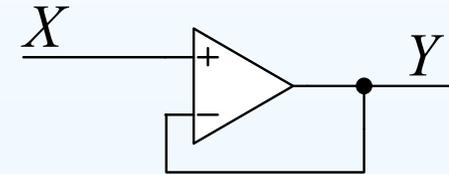
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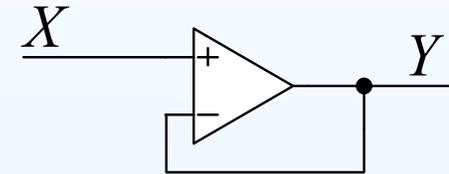
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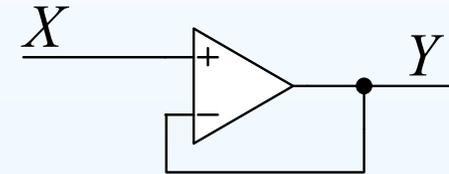
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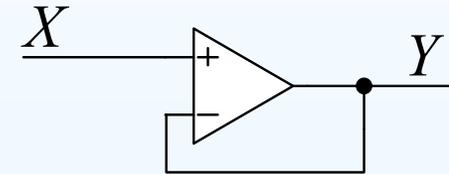
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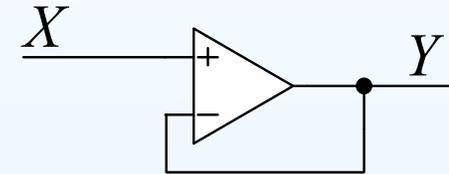
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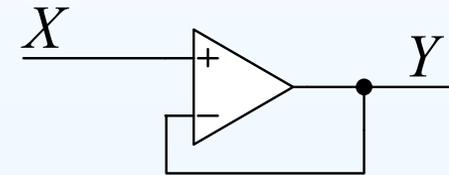
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Golden Rule: Negative feedback adjusts the output to make $V_+ \simeq V_-$.

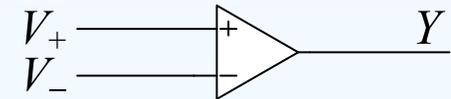


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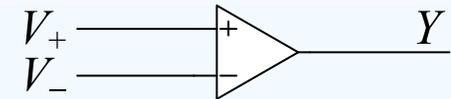


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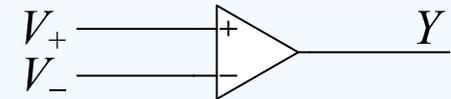
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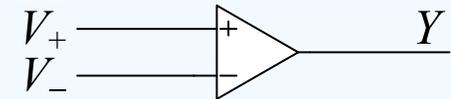
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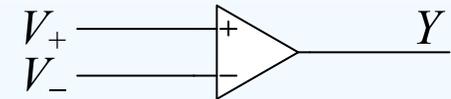
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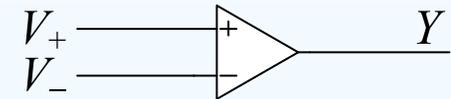
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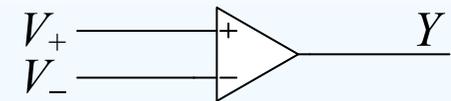
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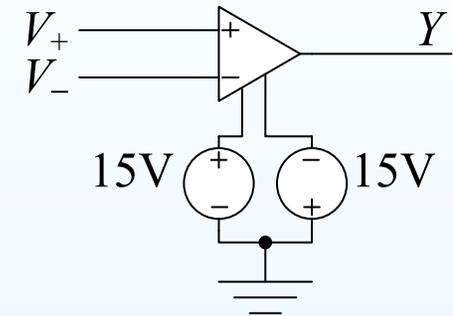
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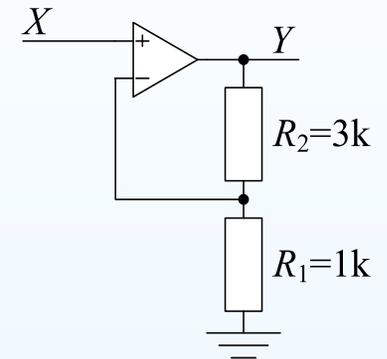
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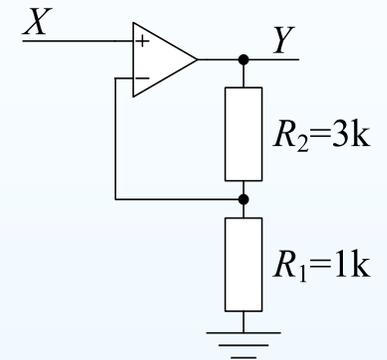
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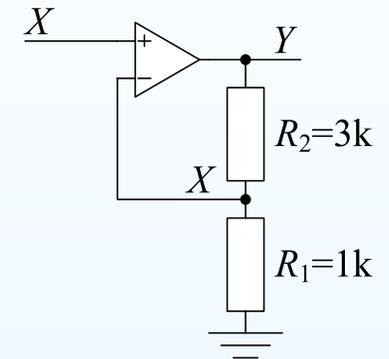
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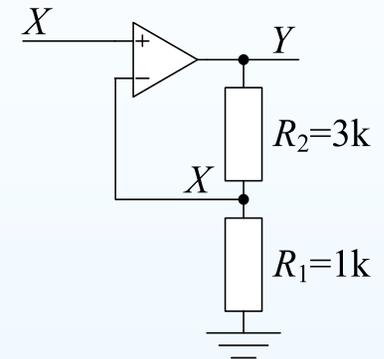
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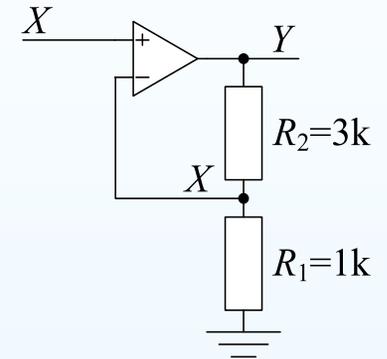
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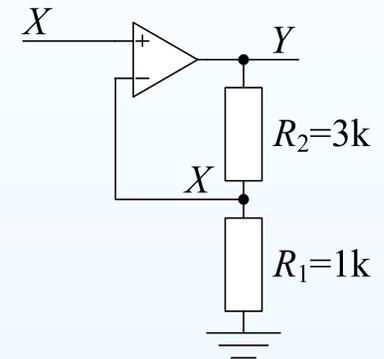
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Non-inverting amplifier because the gain $\frac{Y}{X}$ is positive.

Consequence of X connecting to V_+ input.

Can have any gain ≥ 1 by choosing the ratio $\frac{R_2}{R_1}$.



Non-inverting amplifier

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Circuit has input voltage X and output voltage Y . The circuit gain $\triangleq \frac{Y}{X}$.

Applying steps 1 to 3:

1. Negative feedback OK.

2. $V_- = V_+ = X$

3. Zero input current at V_- means R_2 and R_1 are in series (\Rightarrow same current) and form a voltage divider. So $X = \frac{R_1}{R_1 + R_2} Y$.

$$\text{So } Y = \frac{R_1 + R_2}{R_1} X = \left(1 + \frac{R_2}{R_1}\right) X = +4X.$$

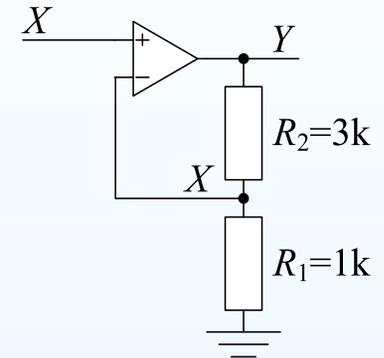
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Cause/effect reversal: Potential divider causes $V_- = \frac{1}{4} Y$.

Feedback inverts this so that $Y = 4V_+$.

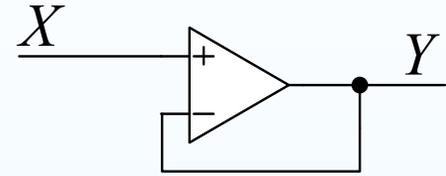


Voltage Follower

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Voltage Follower

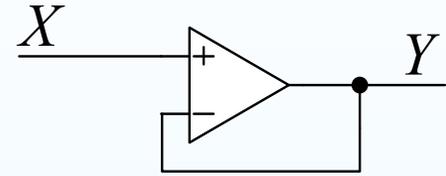
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Output Y “follows” input X .



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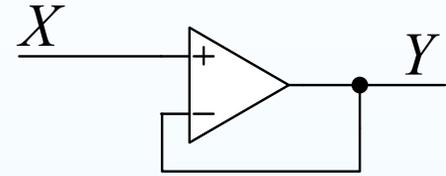
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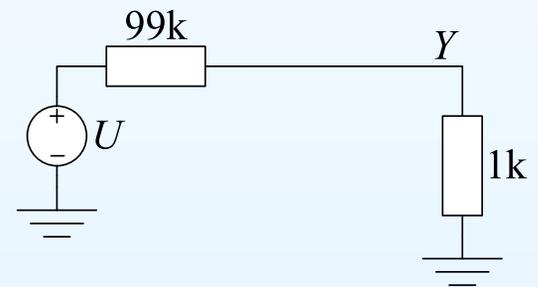
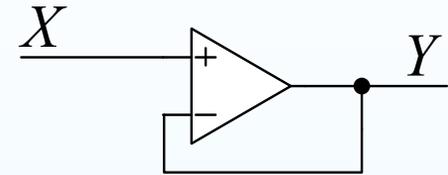
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Without voltage follower: $Y = 0.01U$.



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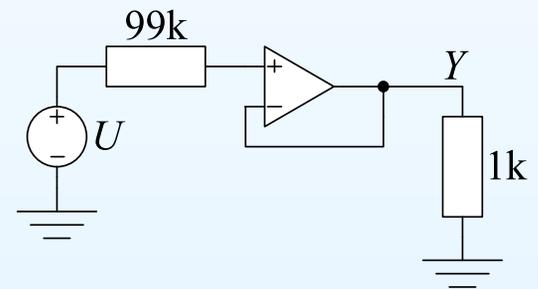
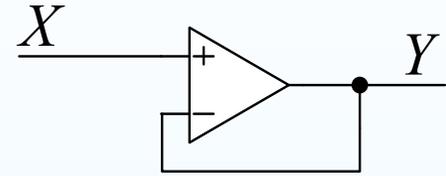
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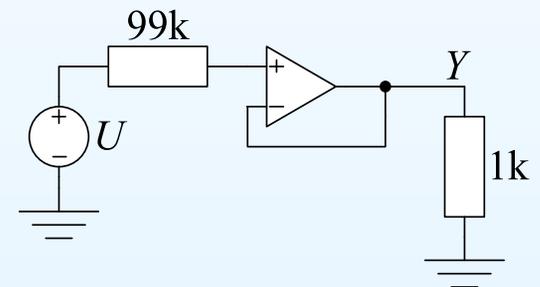
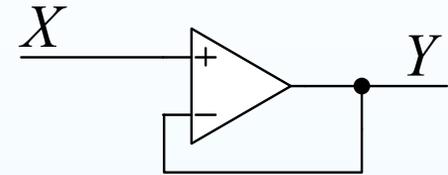
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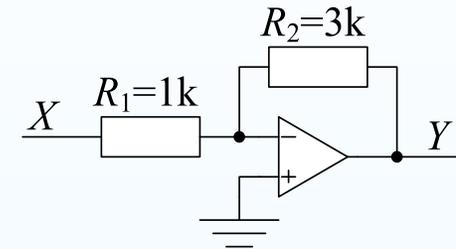
Although the *voltage gain* is only 1, the *power gain* is much larger.

Inverting Amplifier

Negative feedback OK.

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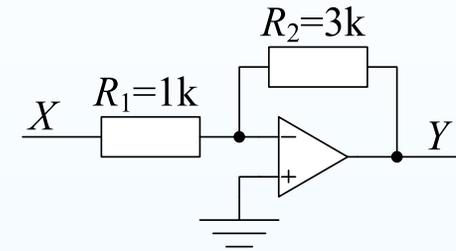
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Since $V_+ = 0$, we must have $V_- = 0$.



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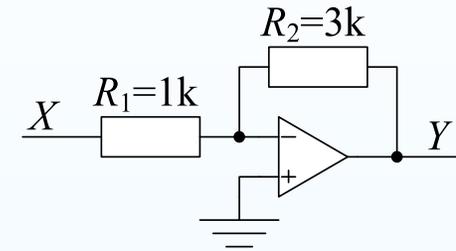
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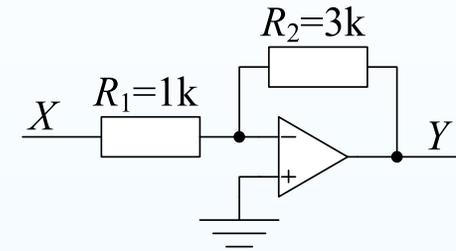
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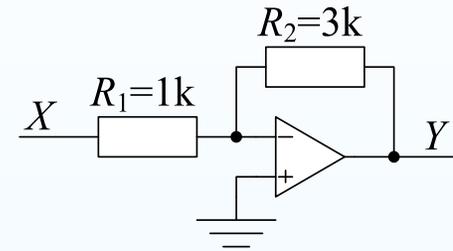
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Negative feedback holds V_- very close to V_+ .

If $V_+ = 0$ V, then V_- is called a *virtual earth* or *virtual ground*.

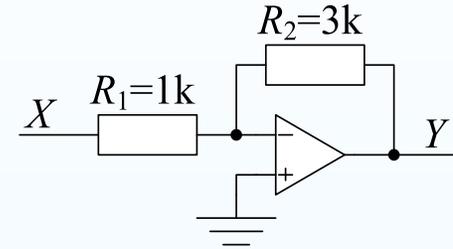
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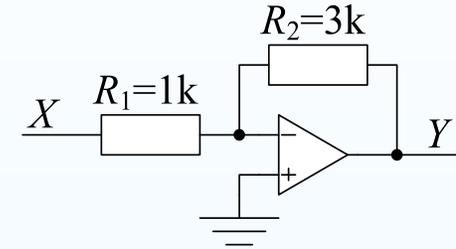
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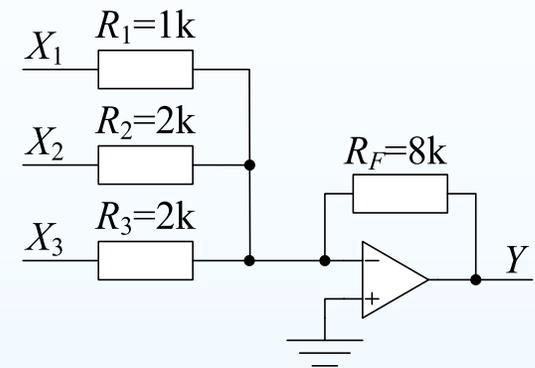
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Inverting Summing Amplifier

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We can connect several input signals to the inverting amplifier.



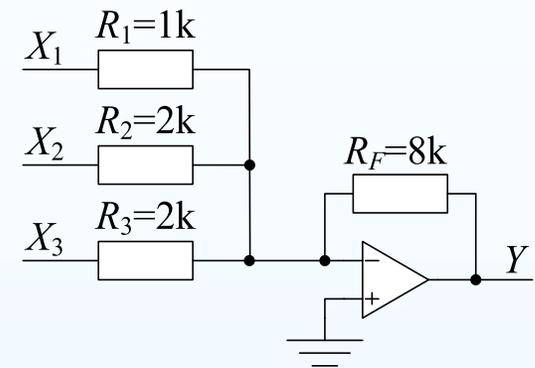
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We can connect several input signals to the inverting amplifier.

As before, $V_- = 0$ is a virtual earth due to negative feedback and $V_+ = 0$.



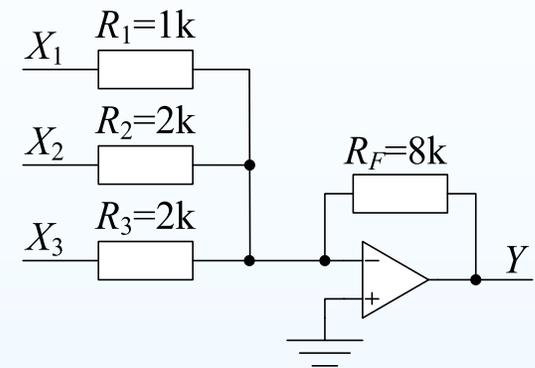
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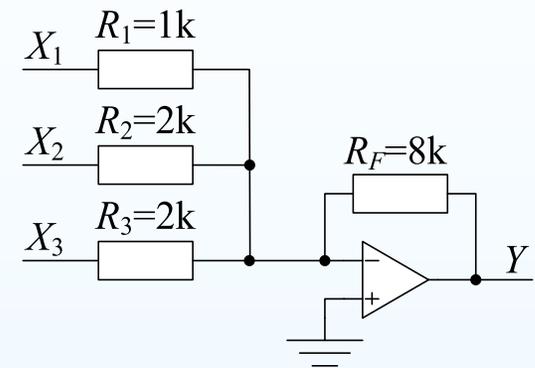
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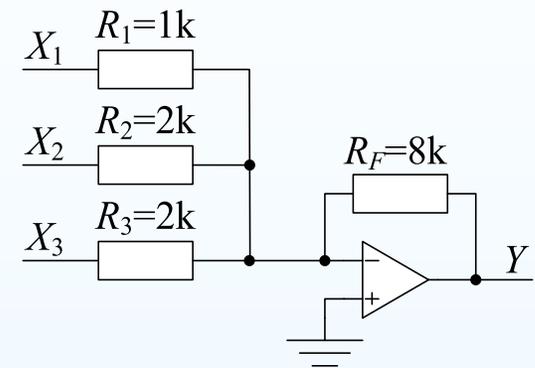
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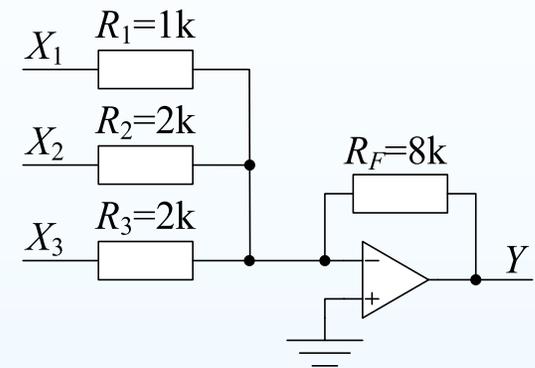
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Y is a weighted sum of the input voltages with the weight of X_i equal to $-\frac{R_F}{R_i} = -G_i R_F$.

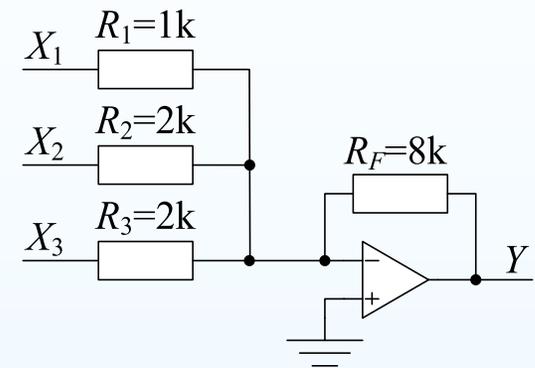
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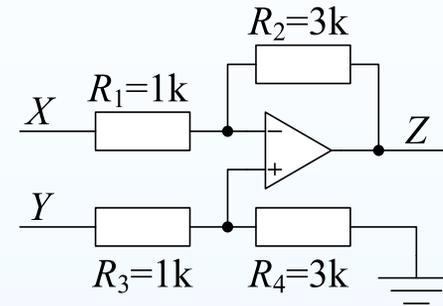
Input Isolation: The current through R_1 equals $\frac{X_1-0}{R_1}$ which is not affected by X_2 or X_3 . Because V_- is held at a fixed voltage, **the inputs are isolated from each other.**

Differential Amplifier

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A 2-input circuit combining inverting and non-inverting amplifiers.



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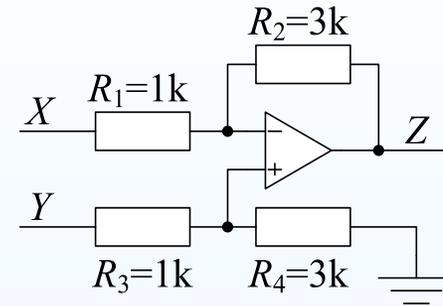
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Linearity $\Rightarrow Z = aX + bY$.

Use superposition to find a and b .



Differential Amplifier

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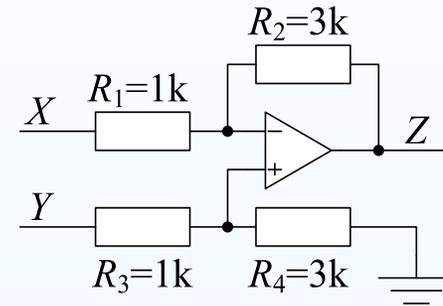
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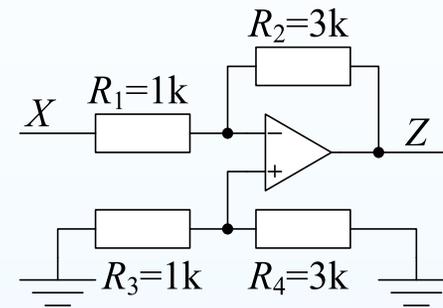
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Differential Amplifier

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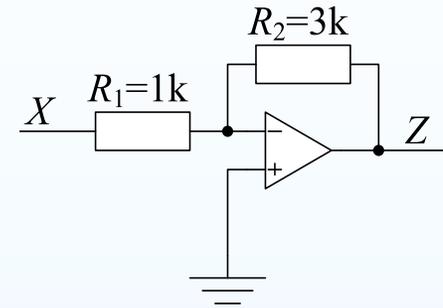
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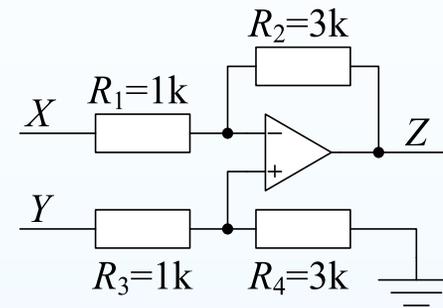
A 2-input circuit combining inverting and non-inverting amplifiers.

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Use superposition to find a and b .

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Differential Amplifier

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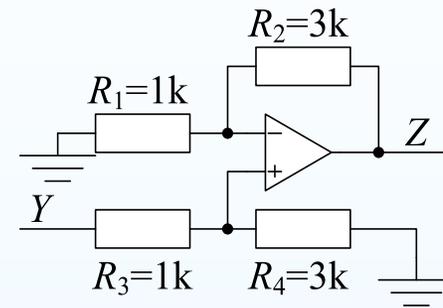
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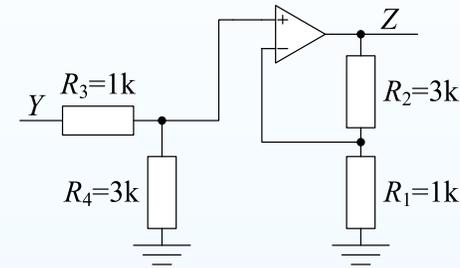
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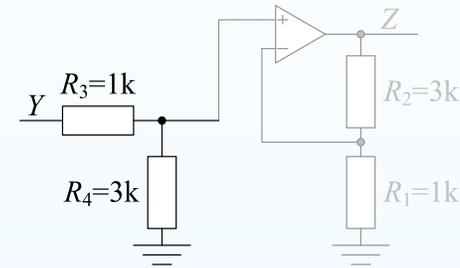
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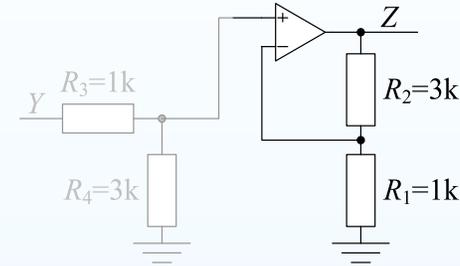
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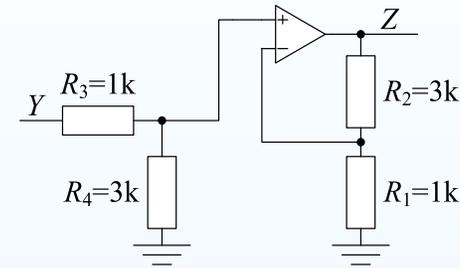
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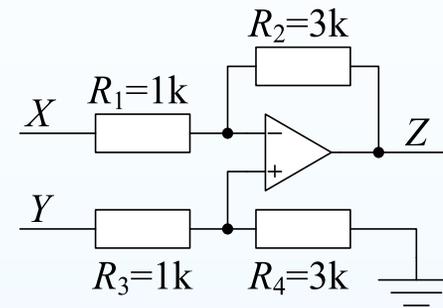
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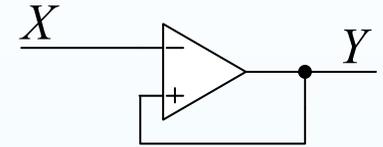
Combining the two gives $Z = 3(Y - X)$. The output of a **differential amplifier** is proportional to the difference between its two inputs.

Schmitt Trigger

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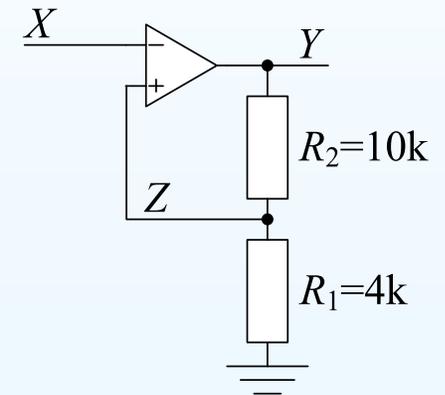
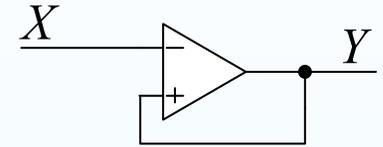
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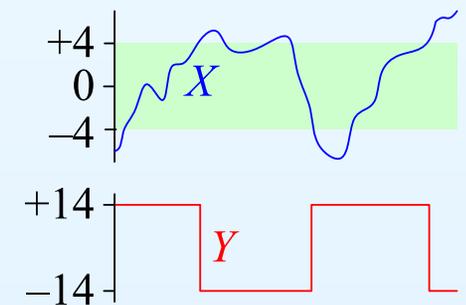
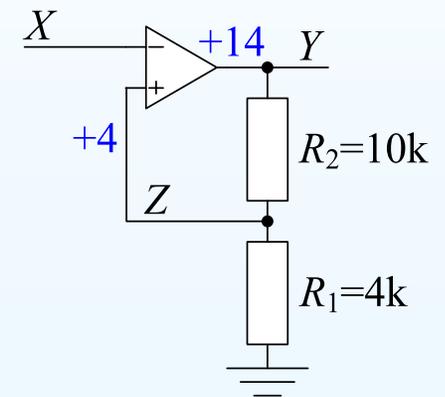
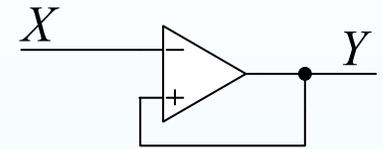
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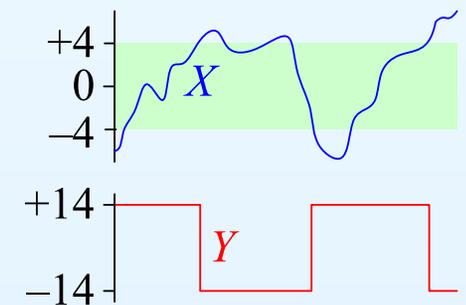
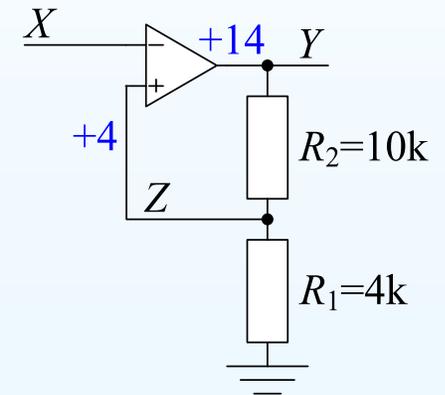
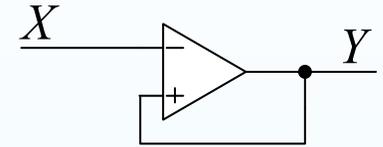
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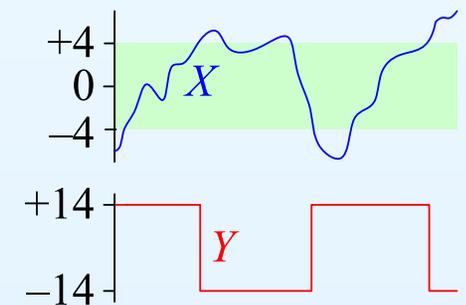
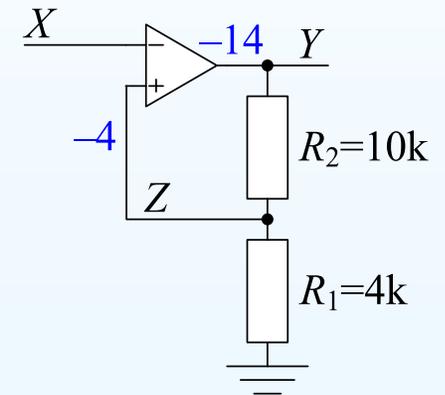
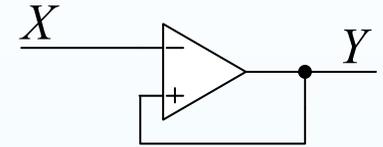
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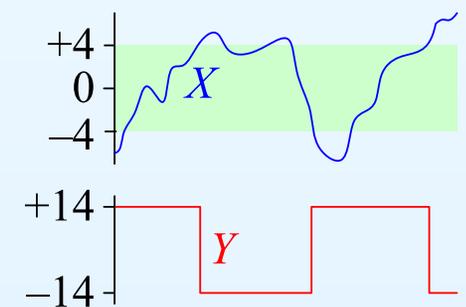
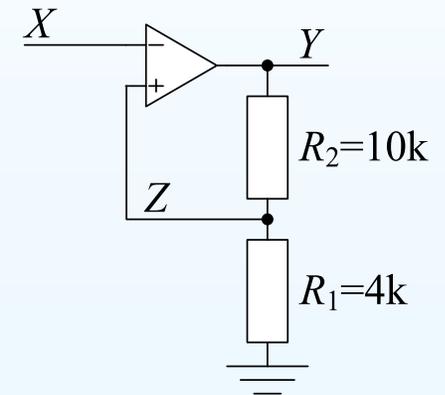
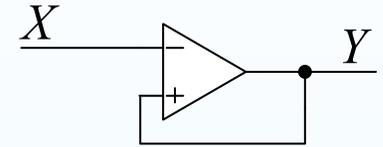
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Negative feedback stabilizes the output to make $V_+ \simeq V_-$.

Positive feedback adjusts the output to maximize $|V_+ - V_-|$.



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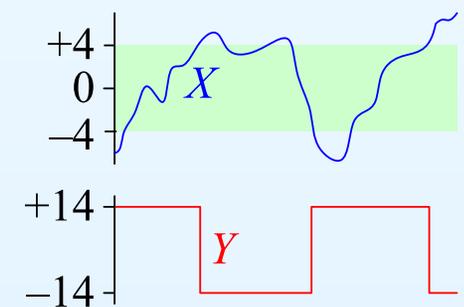
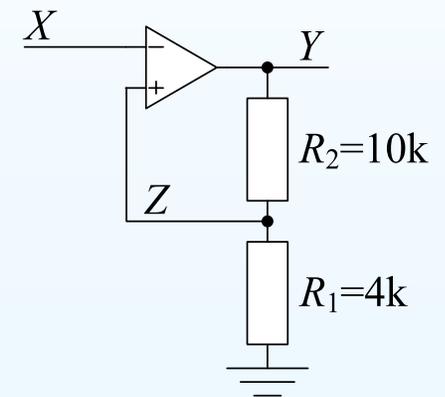
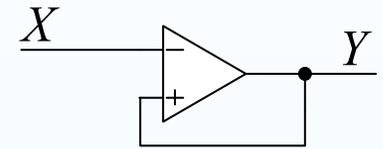
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Positive feedback adjusts the output to maximize $|V_+ - V_-|$. Output will switch between its maximum and minimum values, e.g. $\pm 14\text{ V}$ (slightly less than the $\pm 15\text{ V}$ power supplies).

Switching will happen when $V_+ = V_-$.

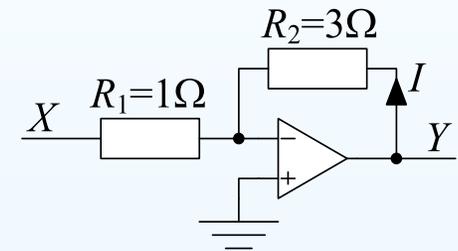


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gain = $-R_2/R_1$. How do you choose between $3\ \Omega/1\ \Omega$, $3\ \text{k}\Omega/1\ \text{k}\Omega$, $3\ \text{M}\Omega/1\ \text{M}\Omega$ and $3\ \text{G}\Omega/1\ \text{G}\Omega$?



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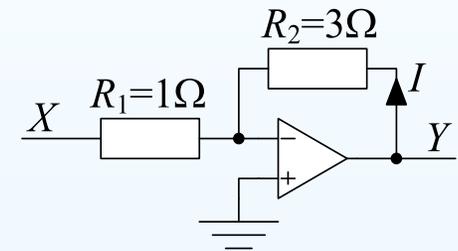
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Small resistors cause large currents.

If $X = \pm 1\ \text{V}$, then $Y = \mp 3\ \text{V}$,
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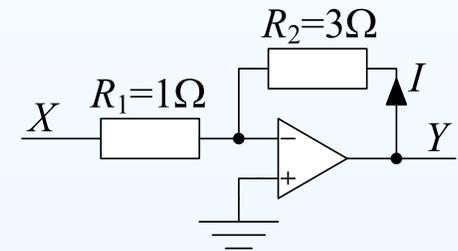
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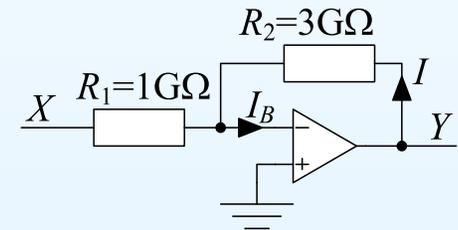
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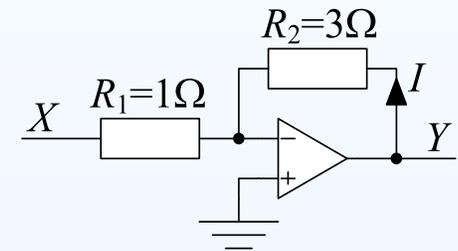
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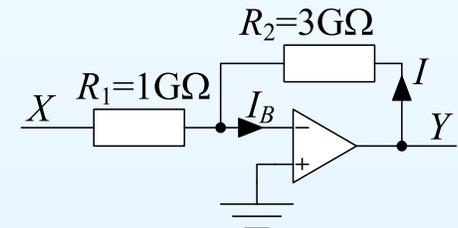
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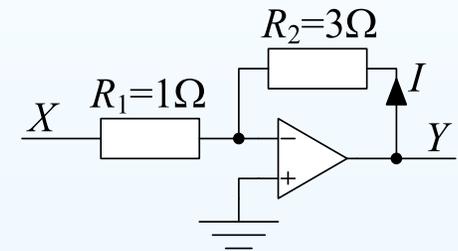
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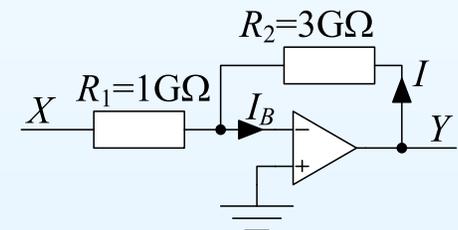
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$$\frac{0-Y}{R_2} + \frac{0-X}{R_1} + I_B = 0 \Rightarrow Y = -\frac{R_2}{R_1}X + I_B R_2 = -3X + 3$$

instead of $Y = -3X$.



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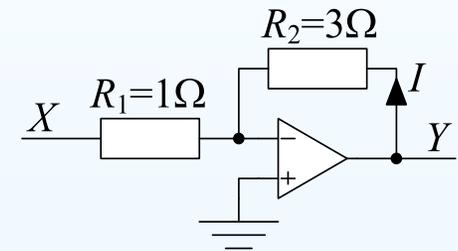
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Small resistors cause large currents.

If $X = \pm 1\ \text{V}$, then $Y = \mp 3\ \text{V}$,
and so $I = \frac{Y-0}{R_2} = \mp 1\ \text{A}$.

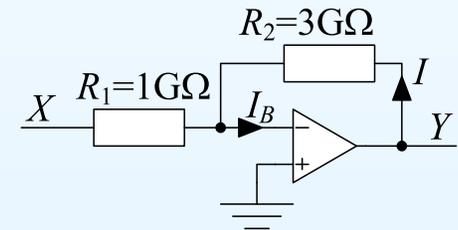
However typical op-amps can only supply $\pm 5\ \text{mA}$, so the circuit **will not work**.



Large resistors increase sensitivity to interference and to op-amp input currents. If the **bias current** into V_- is $I_B = 1\ \text{nA}$, then KCL at V_- gives

$$\frac{0-Y}{R_2} + \frac{0-X}{R_1} + I_B = 0 \Rightarrow Y = -\frac{R_2}{R_1}X + I_B R_2 = -3X + 3$$

instead of $Y = -3X$.



Within wide limits, the absolute resistor values have little effect. However you should avoid extremes.

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For further details see Hayt Ch 6 or Irwin Ch 4.